

## Hebei – Huong

## An Anthology of Art and Poetry by young artists

Artists Space is pleased to present *Skipped Time*, featuring poetry and artworks of middle and high school students working in our innovative art and education program Expanded Art Ideas, initiated in September 2001 and now in its 24th year of continuous activity. Grounded in the social and collaborative nature of creative inquiry within the greater New York City community of artists, Expanded Art Ideas recognizes artists and young people as central activators in responding to the concerns and issues of our time.

This marks our first year of working with a new collaborative partner, The Door,, a social services, organization serving young people between the ages of 12-24 whose central facility is in downtown Manhattan. This new cohort, working in our BRIDGE photography program, bonded and coalesced around themes of hope and resilience in a chaotic and unsteady moment, using 35 mm cameras to seek out stories hidden in the city's shadows.

Our new poet Matthew Bussa stepped into the year with a commitment to developing a connection to place through the particular – a sensory exploration of home, love, and NYC. These themes reappeared in our inquiry-based mixed media project with Robert Sember, *What Is The Sound Of Home?*, a yearlong project of studying maps and contemporary migrations while developing art-making skills to communicate new understandings of history and place.

Exploring poetry, observational drawing, and collaborative collage, Esperanza Cortés and bilingual students at M.S. 324 created a magical exhibition called *Nuestro Reflejo*, at the Morris Jumel Mansion in Washington Heights that wonderfully interfaced with historic remnants of the past while celebrating the expansion and freedom of the current neighborhood.

Many of us are questioning the very core of what is stable in our lives—family, home, our communities, and the regular rhythms of our days. *Skipped Time*, a line taken from one of our young poets, announces the rushed and often bullying speed at which our young people have to move through information and reality. Their works offer us a glimpse into the depth of love and connection that provide the essential foundation for a healthy secure life. They are our new storytellers, heart-opening visionaries, peacekeepers for the world's futures.

Many thanks to Artists Space Teaching Artists, Artists Space staff, and to artists, Constantina Zavitsanos and Carolyn Lazard for helping to create these opportunities, and many thanks to our partner school staffs for giving their time, patience, and attention to these young artists.

Kate Temple  
Director of Education

# Listening to the LES



### **Listening to the LES** ***What Is The Sound Of Home?***

All our Listening to the Lower East Side projects begin with walks during which we pay attention to sounds in and around P.S. 140.

This year, we listened for noises we generally take for granted, such as bird songs in Hamilton Fish Park, the cacophony of traffic, and the train sounds from the Williamsburg Bridge.

When our listening became routine, I asked: "What is the sound of home?"



One of our first visits was to Constantina Zavitsanos' exhibition *fwiw* at Artists Space.

Her work taught us that translating one sense into another—hearing into seeing and seeing into feeling, for example—helps us deepen our perceptions.

Responding to our many questions, Constantina explained that we do not only listen with our ears.

Our feet feel sounds, especially bass sounds,  
and to see sound waves vibrate water- is like listening with our eyes.



When asked where the water in the exhibition came from, Constantina explained that it was from their family home in Greece.

So, the exhibition included a response to the question **"What is the sound of home?"**



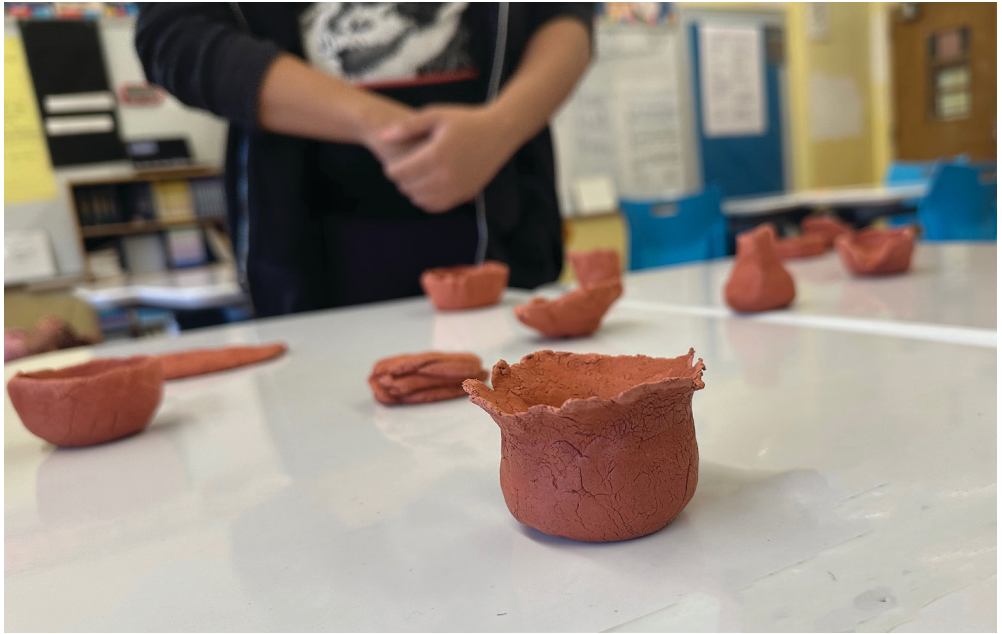
To deepen our perceptions, we explored how to pay attention with clay.

When pushed against surfaces in the neighborhood and collected objects, slabs of clay "remember" texture and pattern.



Home, we discussed, is a place that has left its impression on us.  
Home is also where we make our marks.

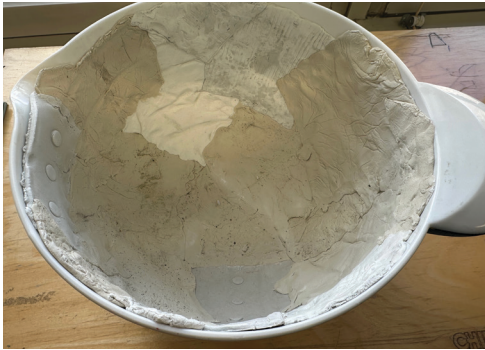
That is, we remember and are remembered by our homes.



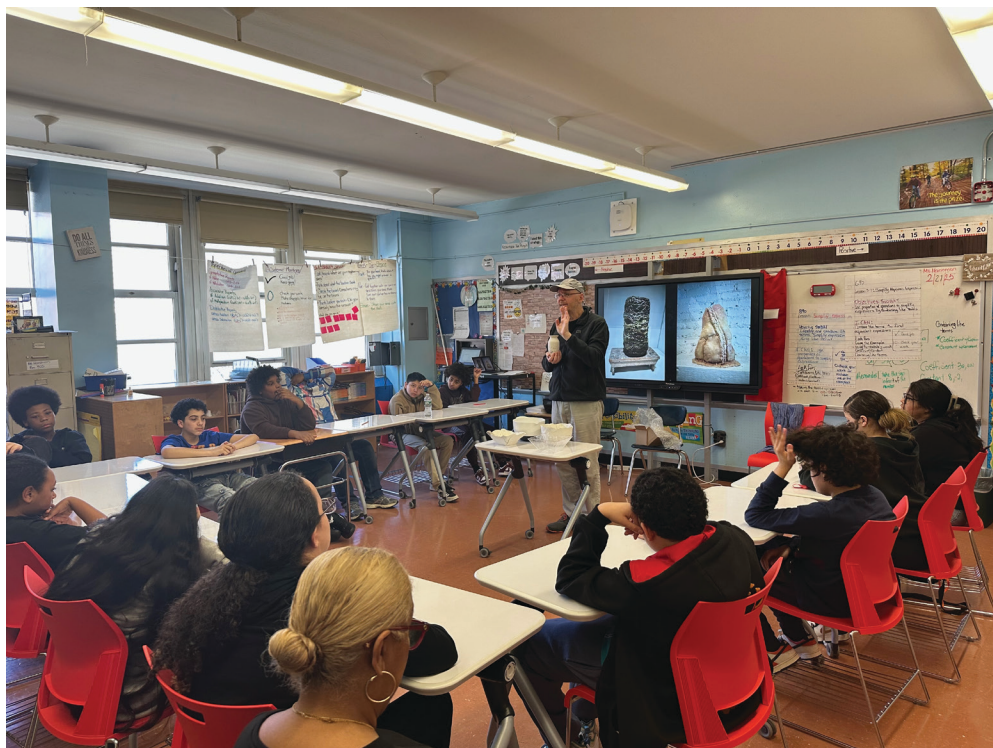
This idea inspired the artist Kate Temple to teach us how to make clay bowls and vases using coiling, pinching, and slab techniques.



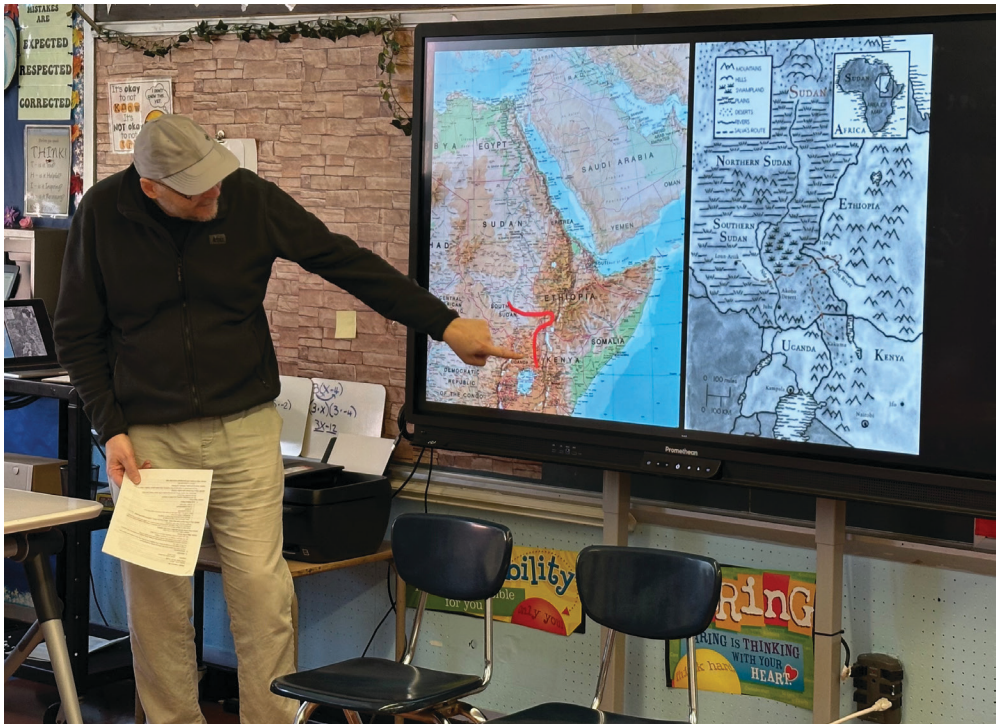
We filled the insides with coils of paper, like timelines, containing our memories of home.



When we combined textured slabs into large bowls, they felt like memory maps of the neighborhood on the outside.



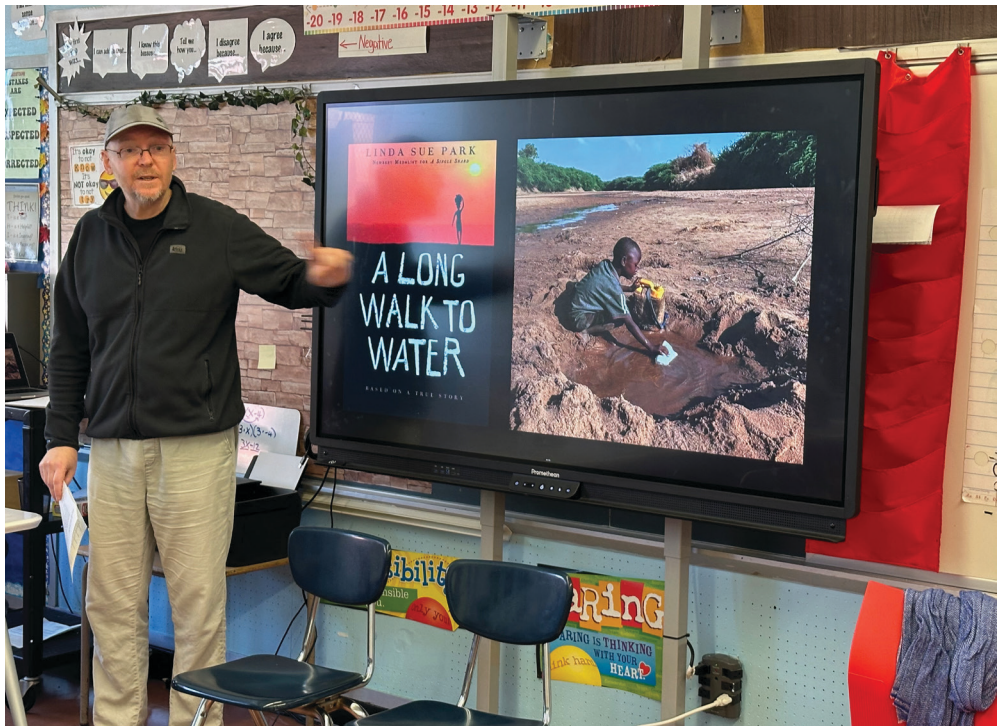
Our study of maps and vessels connected us to the sounds of home in a different way.



Inspired by the book, *A Long Walk to Water*, written by Linda Sue Park, we asked:  
**"What do people who are forced to leave home understand about belonging to a place?"**

The book tells the stories of Salva and Nya from Sudan. They are 11 years old when their stories begin.

A war in Sudan forced Salva to leave his family and walk hundreds of miles in search of refuge. Nya is a young girl forced to walk many miles each day to fetch water from muddy river beds.



When a well is dug near Nya's village, her life changes.  
The clay in the river Nya visited is used by her community to make pots to store and cook food.

When molding clay, these artists are touching the ground - the earth of their home.

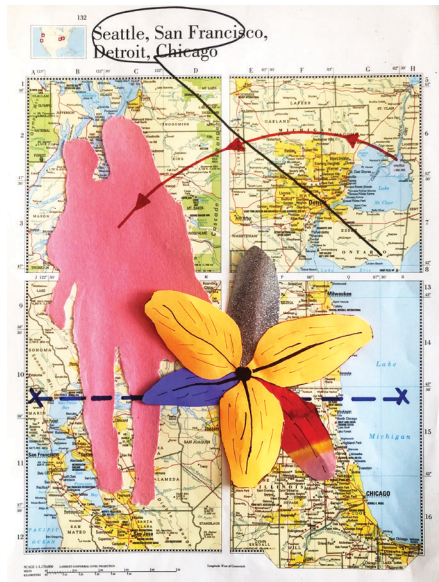
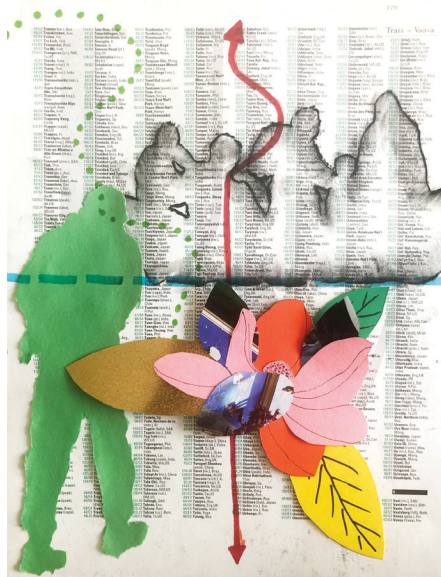
It's as if their fingers are writing their stories into the clay.



Clay, shaped in this way, become a piece of home that can travel with us.



These handmade clay objects tell us about belonging to a place we call home.



Maps are silent about the lives of the millions of refugees like Salva who each year journey great distances in search of safety.

For more than a century, millions of people fleeing war, violence, poverty, and environmental destruction have made new homes in the Lower East Side.



With this history in mind, we listened again in the Spring (when the crocuses and daffodils were in bloom) for the memories held by the neighborhood.

As we imagined the sounds of people making journeys and finding new homes, we created new forms of mapmaking to remind us to celebrate their courage and beauty.

The *What Is The Sound Of Home* team included our wonderful and wise elders, Ms Hanoman, Ms Davis, Ms Cox, Ms Sanchez, Ms Cox and Ms Debbie and artists Robert Sember and Kate Temple, and the talented and courageous students from 901 and 903.

Sophia Campo  
Mason Cepeda  
Jayden Carter  
Dante Dominguez-Polo  
Riley McCullum

Jaylynn Hernandez  
Kevin Kelly Jr  
Brandon Nunez  
Miguel Rivera  
Jaqueline Sanjuan Torres

Katelynn Sistrunk  
Adam Solari  
Christian Torres  
Jaylee Vargas

P.S. 140

# Poetry

Throughout several months of writing workshops on Cities, Love, and Feeling, the 8th graders of P.S. 140 investigated how to transmit their lives through language.

They dedicated odes to unappreciated preoccupations, transcribed the sounds of their early morning commute, and innovated alternate definitions of the word "Home." They harnessed the language of softly crashing waves, the explosion of July 4th fireworks, and the roar of motorcycle engines to visualize the immaterial. Vibrating with the potential of making oneself known, the poems anthologized here insist on an emotional reality as physical and consequential as the sounds, smells, and sensations of the city the students call home.

To best translate our environment to the world, we studied the transportative nature of written images. We read the work of Nate Marshall, viewed the poetry performance of Ariana Brown, and listened to imagery of Nina Simon. Immersing ourselves in their vivid sculpting of environment – "dusty thrift stores," or "the restaurants with no chairs / just a window, a bulletproof sneeze guard," we learned how the simple description of place facilitates a more empathetic encounter. The resulting *City Poems* enable us to feel the density of cement sidewalks while encountering another's hopes, dreams, and fears.

We found our skill for description useful again in communicating the sensation of love, heartbreak, and passion. In the resulting *Heart Poems* immaterial, layered feelings of delicacy, fragility, and "mixedness" materialize into images of Jenga pieces falling, or the mishmash colors of incorrectly distributed recycling at Walmart.

Such language generously transplants these feelings in us as well. We sourced language for these pieces communally, grafting quotes from classroom discussions on love, romance, and relationships in which students were asked to "write everything you know about LOVE".

Though responses were far ranging, the consensus proved emphatic: love is something you feel in your body.

## **I love New York**

I love New York for its  
diversity  
Why so many homeless people  
Maybe because Everything  
is too expensive  
I've learned don't talk to strangers  
When I hear "New York" I think of food  
Pizza and spaghetti with tomato sauce  
Don't trust no one  
Everyone lies  
He lies, she lies  
Girl you lie. All the time. So do I.  
I saw pigeons  
I think they're spying  
on me  
I heard a garbage truck  
I covered my nose  
I should have covered  
my ears  
When I say "New York" I mean: the projects the hood

## **Blackheart**

You haven't experienced real love for it to hurt you  
My heart is as hard as an obsidian rock in a cave  
My heart is like an iceberg  
Everyday I think about how fragile my heart is  
Love is unconditional and fulfilled life  
My heart is like the earth 12PM - 12AM  
12PM is light and sunshine 12AM is too filled with darkness  
I dream of a heart filled with Love, trust, and loyalty  
How could a heart filled with love be ruined with a simple mistake  
Like  
My black heart

My heart is as soft as a white silky  
feather. So weak and weightless  
but when water falls on a feather, the feather  
Becomes heavy. Just like my heart  
The struggle to stay in the air  
Floating peacefully without distractions  
The quality that I  
Lack, Peace.

## **Love**

My heart is as strong as a rock is safe and still  
Everyday I love to play soccer  
Love is something I cannot let go  
My heart is like a foam of sea  
My heart is as stable as an oil rig  
Every day I wake up I can't clear your  
smiling face out of my head.  
When I am next to you I cannot stop looking at you.  
But still I focus on my future career  
even though I still love you I have to  
let you go.

Greed is natural for humans.  
But that isn't an excuse.  
They treat it like an instinct.

Money leads you nowhere

Greed leads you nowhere.  
These people cannot be happy  
being a slave doesn't contain  
Joy. Some chase and dread  
but never get there,

You were saved from  
a fate where every greedy individual  
Implodes under pressure  
and will perish  
by their own hands.  
So once again  
greed will lead  
you nowhere.

## **NYC**

I hate NYC but,  
At the same time i like it  
I like traveling to new places  
I like trying new things like  
activities, food, exploring new places  
and i love how people travel from  
all over the country to come to  
NYC, but i hate NYC too. I hate when I have to see  
People screaming to themselves  
Like if an engine going off.

## **To My Mom**

Shout out to my mom  
for being there for me since day 1  
I know I might give  
You a hard time sometimes but just know  
I love you very much  
And I never want you to  
Think that i don't love  
You, and I never want to see  
You cry it kills me.  
And I want to see a joyful smile on your face  
Just like bright colors of flowers

**IDK**

My heart is as broken as a glass vase when it falls from a tall height.

And my heart is as joyful as being with my friends.

And if you are about to find the right person, your heart won't ever break.

And sometimes there is one person that I feel like the happiest person in the world.

Mi corazon es tan duro como un bloque de hierro pero para las personas  
a que quiero es blando

Mi corazon es tan suave como un algodón para las personas que amo

Todos los días yo pienso que por qué hay tanta broga aquí

El amor es como un carro primero funciona y después se dana

Mi corazones como un hierro

Willinyes Gonzalez

### **Love Poem**

My heart is as melty as ice cream slowly dripping off the cone on a hot sunny day.

My heart is as delicate as taking a Jenga block- carefully avoiding the tower falling.

Everyday I have many thoughts at home and school about chocolate.

Love is many things you can feel it see it in a lot of things.

My heart is like a mix of different feelings and they all have different reasons for being in my heart.

Evelyn Vazquez

### **Love is like a Sunrise**

My heart is as peaceful as the sound of the peaceful rain, the little droplets fallin' down the window

My heart is as exhausted as a dog being tired from running all day

Everyday i hide my heart so it doesn't break like glass

Love is like a sunrise it is bright and joyful

My heart is as delicate as a sea shell

I dream of how my heart feels so loved when I'm with my friends

I remember how I feel as relaxed as the wind  
That goes through the grass, when i'm loved

My heart is as safe as the planes that  
go through the sky.

## **Poison in my Brain**

My heart is as loving as a mother cooking mac and cheese  
My heart is as loud as a firecracker on the fourth of July  
My heart is scared to love like  
a mouse is scared of cats  
But I can't help to love you like  
How I love myself. Everytime I see  
You my Heart acts before my  
Brain. You were the only one there  
for me. When I'm with you it's  
like I have poison in my brain.  
But we have to leave each other  
Because even though I love you

Every day I wake up its a new day  
I'm in the hood  
wearing Gucci  
shades. Walking by  
my neighbors on the new  
block. I don't know but today  
Seems kinda odd. No barking  
From the dogs no songs. Everyday  
I make it home I thank  
God. Now we in the future  
2025 why it feels like  
I skipped time.  
All the new lights and  
All the cars. I don't know  
But technology getting  
Far. I'm walking down  
the block in the  
new city not gonna to lie everything  
seem pretty. Not gonna lie it might be  
a good city.

## **Haiku**

Roses are rotting  
Violets are dying  
And I want food

### **Weaknesses Meaning**

Love is a weakness to greatness, it only brings you down.

Wake up to reality...  
nothing ever goes as planned  
in this accursed world

But love feels like a blessing it's really a curse.

Self love brings Pride and arrogance.

Just because you "Love" people doesn't mean they'll love you back.

The only type of love I approve is love of victory or triumph.

My heart is as ruthless as a dagger it pierces through obstacles.

Love is almost meaningless, but people are controlled by it  
Love is shattered by truth.

## **My Heart**

My heart is as light as a feather.  
My heart is as peaceful as the warmth from a candle.  
My heart is as sparkling as a firework at night.  
My heart is as strong as a diamond.  
My heart is as loud as thunder in the day.  
My heart is as warm as a sunrise in winter.  
My heart is like the stars in the night sky.

## **We Need Family**

Shoutout to Family  
as without it I wouldn't  
be here today.  
oh how I love family  
they hold me together like Elmers glue  
praise the Family  
as they will  
always support  
each other.  
some people say that "family is the worst,  
worse than drinking orange juice after brushing your teeth"  
but you wouldn't be  
here to say that  
if it wasn't for  
Family keeping you together

### **Organ, the rap of the year!**

My heart is as useful as an organ, Rex Splode is so  
explosive, Eninem can rhyme it with ocean.

Spiderman swings in the city like MJ

Saying hehe.

The box is like the rock, who's the boss

The great Batman he saved the city with Robin, in Arkham, the  
cook,

Only took them 12 hours that's with no powers, to stop the Joker  
with aura

### **Jonathan Campbell**

Caundo tiempos estan los tienes

Aprendido a ser mas educado

Cuando Escucho "Nueva York", Pienso en los tiempos

Mi consejo para mí mismo es que sea enfocado

Cuando digo "nueva York" me refiero a Times Square

### **Erick Cunalata**

Mi corazon es tan  
Lindo fue parece  
Una linda mariposa  
Pasando poy un lindo  
Paisaje del amanecer  
Con su lindo colore  
Dilubrate alubya mi  
Amonesel payesiensoce  
Un paraiso

## **Love Hate**

My heart is as bright as yellow but can also be as dark and voidless as black.

My heart is as hard as a diamond but can also be as soft as gold.

My heart is as caring as a gentle mother's touch at birth but can also be as unforgiving as when the seventh trumpet sounds on judgement.

My heart loves unconditionally but also loves less in situations.

My heart forgives everyone but holds a hateful urge to get back.

My heart loves forgivingly but also hates unforgivingly

My heart is as odd as a dream where anything unreal can happen.  
It feels almost surreal, like I'm lucid dreaming.  
I can feel like I'm flying as high as a kite,  
I can also feel as low as the ocean floor.  
My heart beats like music, and the tone is my mood.  
My heart can be hot and fiery, like spicy food.  
It can be cold, smooth, left to brood.  
My heart is as fragile as glass, don't  
Hurt it so it will last.  
My heart is as odd as a dream, and so  
Many odd things can happen.

### **An Ode to the Trauma**

Since the day I was born,  
I've been cursed to this life.  
But I'm forced to stay strong,  
Till the day that I die.  
My heart feels as cold as stone on an icy mountain  
But trauma stories I've experienced  
Are beautiful in a way,  
Since without such character development,  
I don't know if I would have such an interesting life today.  
Thank you to this curse, for letting  
Me meet people to help me heal,  
Because without this life, these people  
Would never be revealed. They  
Keep me strong, and my story is  
Built. Slowly but surely I let go  
Of my guilt. Since the day I was cursed  
my mind is made as strong as steel.  
Keep a good mindset, and you will  
Prevail.

## **I Love NYC**

How did it get so popular  
The nice lights  
It's dangerous  
When I hear "New York" I think of parades.

I'm leaving to fulfill my dreams

On my way to school I saw a rat's bed on the street.  
I heard screaming

When I say New York I mean Home

## **Samiah Ceruti**

Amor es lindo, el amor es querer  
cuando te tienes amor a ti mismo puedes darle amor a quien quieras  
me sienta tan cansado como un pajarillo des pues de volar un largo  
rato

## **Raymi Rodriguez**

Mi corazon es tan grande porque  
Tienen mucho amor para mi familia  
Como un mundo

Todos los días yo les doy un abrazo  
A mi mama y a mi papa y a mis  
Hermanos

El amor es cuando amas a tu  
Familia o algún objeto o tambien  
Cuando amas a un sueno que  
Quieres

Mi corazon es como un  
Mundo lleno de amor para mi familia

### **Peaceful Love**

My heart is as golden as a trophy glimmering and shining in a dark  
Empty room

My heart is as soothing as the sound of ocean waves

Every day I play games on an xbox with friends

Love is like the smooth sound of a nice calm song

My heart is like a cackling campfire burning some firewood

with people roasting marshmallow

And everyone relaxing

I dream of a day when I can be famous

The hope that I have left.

## **Yes, I Like.."**

Yes I like gory horror movies from the late 90's  
And early 2000's. Even the 80's. Just depends.  
I like romcoms from the early 2000's  
I like Boston creme doughnuts.  
Yes I like french fries in ice cream.  
I like the electric guitar.  
I like crocheting.  
I like pepperoni pizza with a lot of oil  
Yes I like the smell of cleaning products – Fabuloso, Pinesol  
I like the color black more than any color  
I like my bushy eyebrows  
I like dry cereal with no milk  
Yes I like the dark facts about ancient history – the Salem Witch  
Trials, the Victorian Era, Ancient Egypt.  
I like music from the 80's and 90's  
Dark movies ease my Soul  
and so does the sounds of  
the sea.  
Yes like waves crashing  
water gliding on the sand  
The sound of seagulls as I tan.  
To Understand  
I am very caring and understanding

Why is it that I'm there for everyone else but no ones there for me?  
Your feelings and mental health come first  
When New York comes to mind I think of the word "fast"  
Prove the people who have doubted you wrong  
On my way to school i see many crossing guards  
I hear the sounds of fire truck sirens in the early morning  
When I say New York I mean - Home  
I feel like birds migrating to find  
Where I stand

I appreciate New York for  
your bright lights  
like the bright lights of the sun  
I can get whatever food  
I want and whenever  
I want. I don't like your  
loud honking cars at night.  
I don't like when people bother me  
in the morning to school. And i like  
Your lights that glow like TNT in cartoons  
On July 4th. I like when  
Lebron James comes to MSG and scores  
40 points on the Knicks.

Mi Corazón es tan sensible como un vaso de cristal y amable.

Mi corazón es tan amable y amoroso como un fruto recién crecido por la naturaleza.

El amor eso amoroso como un gato cariñoso  
Y sensible como una vela tocando la sera mientras  
Se derrite.

Scarleth Bonilla

### **Poema**

A veces te odio, a veces te amo , pero siempre te extraño. Aunque mi boca diga lo contrario, no puedo evitar pensarte a diario . Este sentimiento que intentó enterrar vive dentro de mí, como una herida que no quiere sonar.

Chrisberli Navarrette

My heart is as calm as when I am playing games with my friends  
Calm because I am not worrying about anything else  
My heart is brave as Spiderman when he fights even when he's afraid  
My heart is as loud as firecracker because fire crackers are loud  
Every day I play Fortnite with my good friends.  
On my way to school i saw lots of cars

## **Mi Corazon...**

Mi corazon es tan triste como un dia lluvioso solitario oliendo ah tierra y tranquilo, como si mi corazón estuviera llorando...

Mi corazon es tan dulce como una paleta, como un helado de fresa o como un algodón de azucar es como si mi corazon dulce estuviera lleno de sabores que representan todas mis dulces emociones...

Mi corazon esta tan herido como una cortada en la cara, como si alguien lo hubiera pisoteado y como si sangrara todos los dias...

Porque te sigo queriendo? Ya no puedo mas entre tus brazos me estoy muriendo

Mi corazon que busca estar en un lugar  
donde se pueda esconder para no ser  
Lastimado.

Mi corazon que es tan delicado como un vaso de vidrio, como un bebe, como un globo  
que puede explotar en cualquier momento

Mi corazon que tiene tantas cosas que descubrir  
como un largo libro que cada pagina  
es mas interesante que la otra...

Mi corazon tan temeroso, no quiere que lo lastimen,  
que lo hagan sufrir como lo hicieron antes.

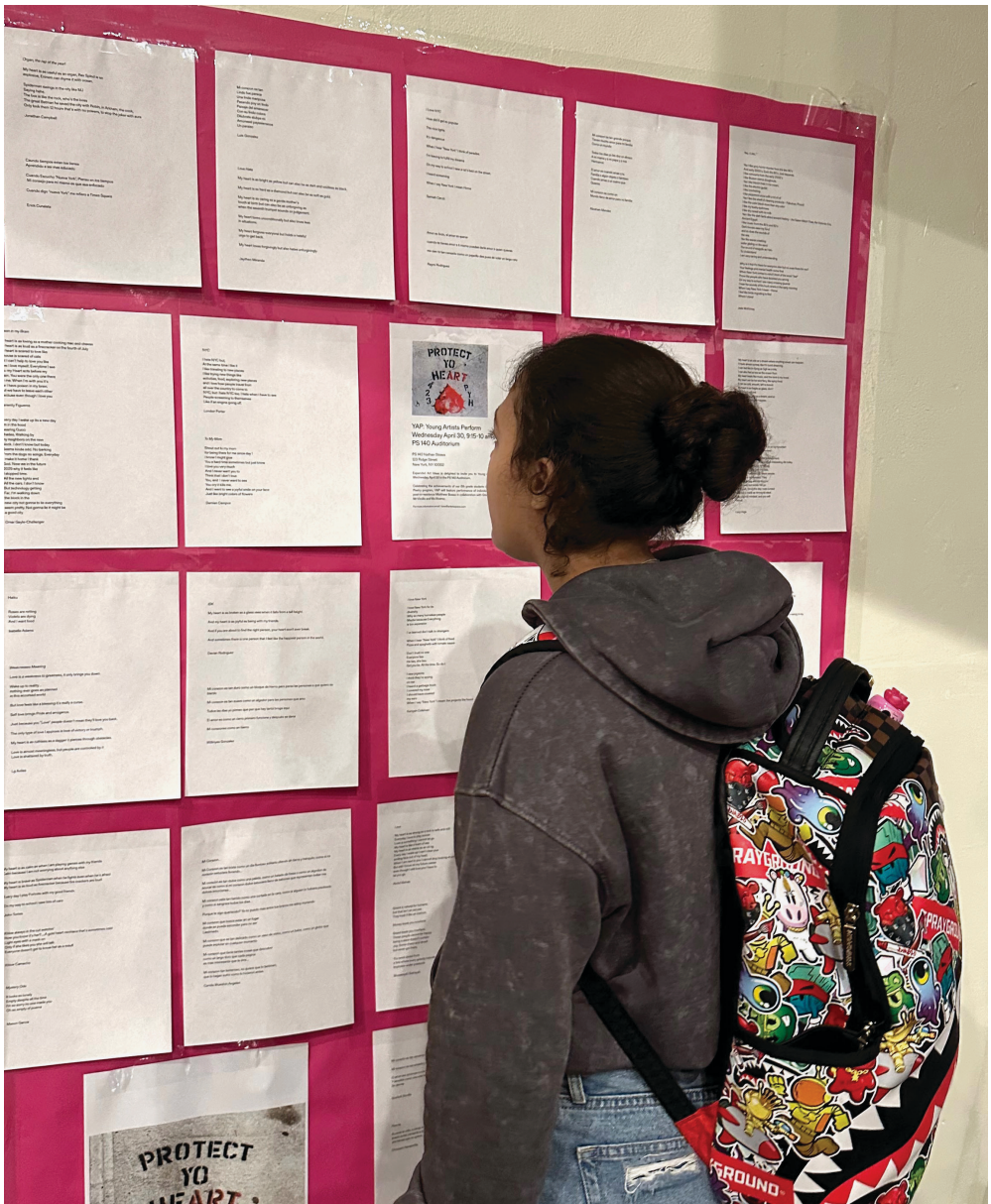
Khloe always in the cut watchin'  
How you know it's her?....A gold heart necklace that's sometimes cold  
Light eyes with a mask on  
Only if she likes you she will talk  
Everyone doesn't get to know her as a result

Khloe Camacho

### **Mystery Ode**

It looks so lonely  
Empty despite all the time  
I'm so sorry no one made you  
Oh so empty of poems

Mason Garcia



### **City Poem**

I love New York  
Why can't we clean it?  
When I hear "New York" I think of Central Park  
I heard people yelling in the morning  
When I say "New York" I mean: Bacon egg and  
cheese cheese cheese

Andrew Camacho

### **Heart Poem**

My love for you is endless, it continues  
to grow more and more you make me feel  
happy. Something I don't think I've ever  
felt with anybody, not even the people closest  
to me. So yes of course I wanna spend  
my life with you. Only if you want that too?  
and yes, I wanna learn and grow with you again, only  
if you want that too? It takes time for people  
to love again after a heartbreak, but with  
You I knew I didn't have to wait. From the first time  
we spoke, I knew you were my person.  
Yes I mean my person as in I wanna  
last forever with you, cause my love  
for you is endless and I hope  
yours for me is too.

Hailey Reyes

Shoutout to hamsters, I love hamsters,  
I love their whole life.  
If I could have 5 or 10  
I'd be more than happy to buy.  
Sadly they die,  
then I will cry.  
They will always be my heart,  
and leave a great remark

## Samaya Dawson

Mi corazón es tan grande como un melocotón gigante que todos los tengo en mi corazón  
Mi corazón es tan pequeño como un sandía pero caber las personas correctas  
Todos los días yo voy a la escuela, me levanto, me termino de arreglar y me voy directo a la escuela  
El amor es una porquería, solo de los existi en la familia  
Mi corazón es como un pedazo que necesita mi cuerpo

## Hade Gutierrez

## **In the Dark**

Some people are in the dark  
with a candle in their hand,  
some people are in the dark with no candle because  
they can't handle what awaits in the dark.

Some people crawl in a ball in that long dark  
hall. They talk to their voices as it's just  
nothing but poison.

Some people don't believe in the dark,  
as it's nothing just a bark. They don't believe  
in the dark as they are the light that could see in  
the dark.

## **Gabriel Mejia**

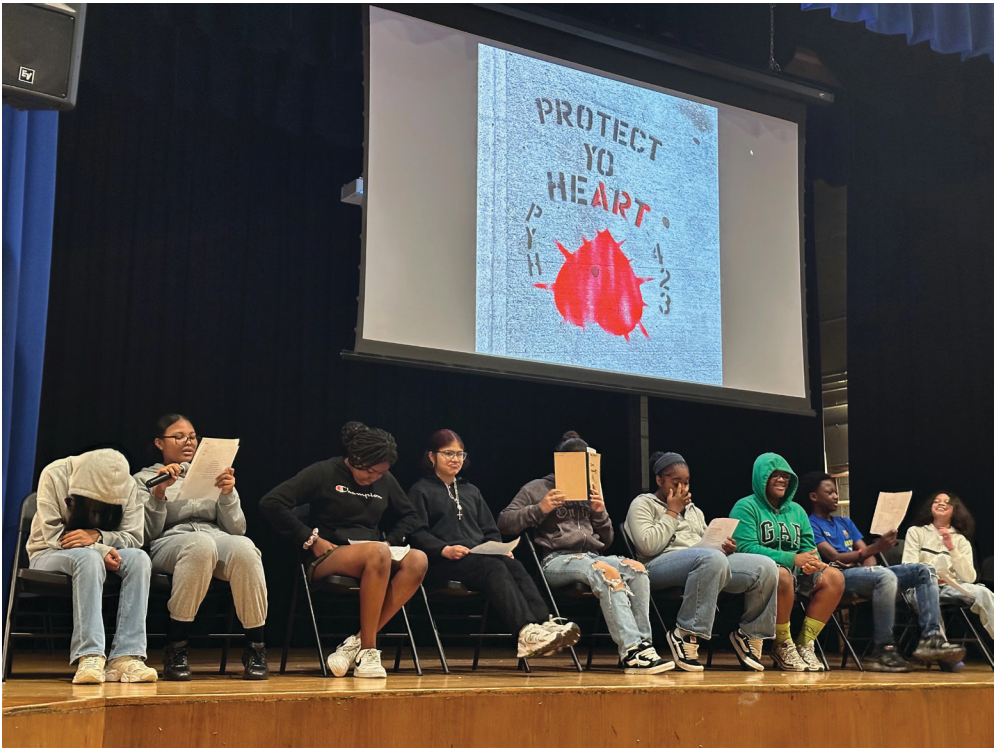
El amor cine del corazona ser esos amigos que son con hermanos para ti o el amor asi esa  
persona que te hace sentir mariposas o el amor asi algun animal como a te escota o asi  
algo que te algo sentiré seguro

En las buenos todos están pero en las malos todos se van pero solo se quedan unos  
cuantos áridos y esos amigos son los que valen mucho son esos amigos que cuando te  
caes se ríen pelo te ayudan a levan por son esos amigos con los que ríes y cuando horos  
ellos son las que te ayudan a levantar tu ánimo 4 esos amigos tengo son amigos ahora son  
hermanos

En al vida hay dos clases de amos el amor él esos amigos que están en las buenas y en las  
notas y el amor por eso persona que coda que hayan té para feliz y que cada que pienses  
en eso persona se te sale una sonrisa

## **Simon Mora Cuava**





M.S. 324

# Threads of History

En mayo de 2024, estudiantes de sexto grado de la escuela intermedia Patria Mirabal MS 324 en Jumel Place colaboraron, tanto individual como colectivamente con Artists Space en un proyecto llamado Hilos de Historia. Artists Space's Expanded Art Ideas: Hilos de Historia es un programa de artes visuales bilingüe cuyo objetivo es establecer conexiones entre la ciencia, el arte, la naturaleza y nuestra responsabilidad hacia el medio ambiente.

Los estudiantes, inspirados por las visitas al parque High Bridge Greenway, estudiaron, dibujaron y crearon poemas de forma espontánea, inspirados en el entorno natural. A partir de estas experiencias, hablaron sobre las conexiones y el simbolismo en la naturaleza y la familia. En las semanas siguientes, crearon acuarelas inspiradas en sus visitas, utilizando ramas y hojas recolectadas en el parque para crear composiciones de naturaleza muerta.

Continuando con la exploración de los temas de identidad, familia y naturaleza, los estudiantes refinaron sus técnicas de dibujo utilizando lápices de grafito y de colores, marcadores y acuarelas para expresar sus ideas. Trabajaron con la técnica de collage, explorando el corte y la creación de patrones, y desarrollando su sensibilidad hacia el equilibrio de color y composición. Decidieron crear una pieza de gran formato titulada *Nuestro Reflejo* utilizando la técnica mixta colaborativa conocida como "quilt" (colcha de tela).

*Nuestro Reflejo* se compuso de flores de seda, bordados, cintas, lentejuelas, pedrería, tela, piezas de cuero y pegamento; la mayoría de los artículos fueron reciclados. Los estudiantes se inspiraron en la obra de Tamara Kostianovsky y Lina Puerta, utilizando símbolos y materiales de formas creativas e innovadoras. La clase se impartió tanto en inglés como en español, e interactuamos en equipos integrados por 2 o 3 estudiantes. En resumen, el proyecto se enfocó en el proceso colaborativo y de conexión, utilizando la composición, el color y el simbolismo con técnicas de medios mixtos.

In May 2024, 24 Grade 6 students at Patria Mirabal M.S. 324 on Jumel Place worked collaboratively and individually on a project with Artists Space's education program Expanded Art Ideas called Threads of History.

Inspired by trips to the High Bridge Greenway Park, the students studied and drew from nature to create poems inspired by the natural environment. They discussed the connections and symbolism of nature and family. In the following weeks they created works inspired by the trips and poems and plants and leaves collected at the park.

Continuing to explore themes of identity, family, and nature, the students at first honed their drawing techniques using pencil, colored pencils, markers, and watercolor. They expanded into collage techniques and explored cutting and pattern making, while developing their sensitivity to color and composition.

They decided to focus on a large-scale collaborative fabric and mixed media quilt called *Nuestro Reflejo/Our Reflection*. The artwork was developed with silk flowers, embroidery, ribbon, sequin, rhinestones, fabric, leather pieces - most items were recycled and previously used.

The students looked at the work of Tamara Kostianovsky and Lina Puerta for inspiration into symbols and for the innovative use of materials such as shiny and reflective objects to suggest looking inward.

Llecely Mendoza  
Assistant Principal  
Patria Mirabal  
Middle School 324

At M.S. 324, we believe that art is a vital part of a student's education. When creativity and expression become a priority in the learning process, new doors open for our students. We have been delighted to partner with Artists Space for more than fourteen years, during which time we have seen incredible program growth and impressive student achievements.

Artists Space's program, Threads of History, expands 6th grade bilingual students' knowledge of their individual histories and the composition of their communities, and provides them with skills to communicate, record, and exhibit their discoveries through collaborative paintings, sculptures, and books. Classes are taught in English and Spanish to serve newly immigrated students, and to foster language acquisition.

This year, Threads of History students worked with Teaching Artist, Esperanza Cortés, and World Language teacher, Beny Rodriguez. They explored the world of symbols using plants and poetry as metaphors for family and connectivity. The works were presented to our staff and other classes through student oral presentations and multiple exhibitions called *Nuestro Reflejo* at M.S. 324, in the community at Word Up's *Recirculation*, and at the Morris Jumel Mansion throughout the year.

We are extremely grateful to have this long-standing partnership with Artists Space's Director of Education, Kate Temple, and Teaching Artist, Esperanza Cortés.

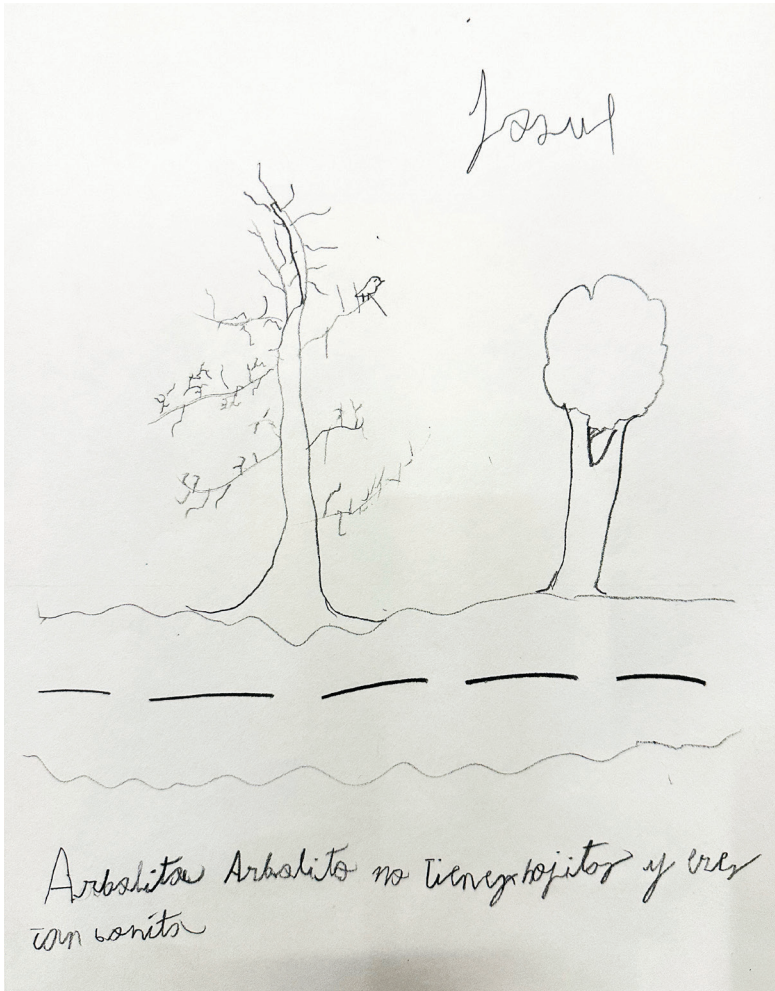
We are looking forward to our next collaboration in 2026!

## Plant Observation Artworks



*Matica, matico cuando te miro me iluminas eres como el sol decada día.*





Arbolito, arbolito no tiene hijitos y eres muy bonita.



*Matito Matita tan grandesita y tan bonito cuando te miro  
me ilumina y tus ojos esta tan bonita.*

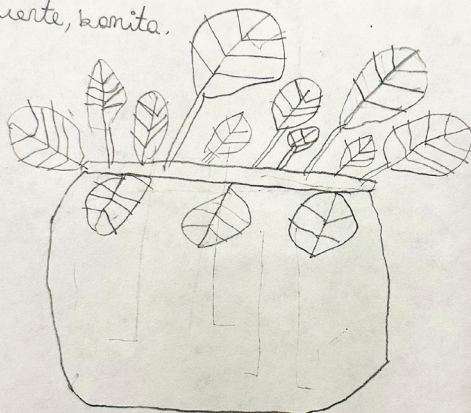


Lia Zaemy

5-28-2024

Plantita Plantita  
Aun Recuerdo  
Cuando eres  
Pequeñita  
Ahora estas  
Grande, Fuerte, bonita.

Mase dibufo



*Plantito Plantita aun recuerdo cuando eres recuentia ahora estas grande, fuerte, bonita.*



*Este lindo arbolito ya se iso viejito  
pero aun así eres el mas bonito de todos los arbolitos de este ranchito.*









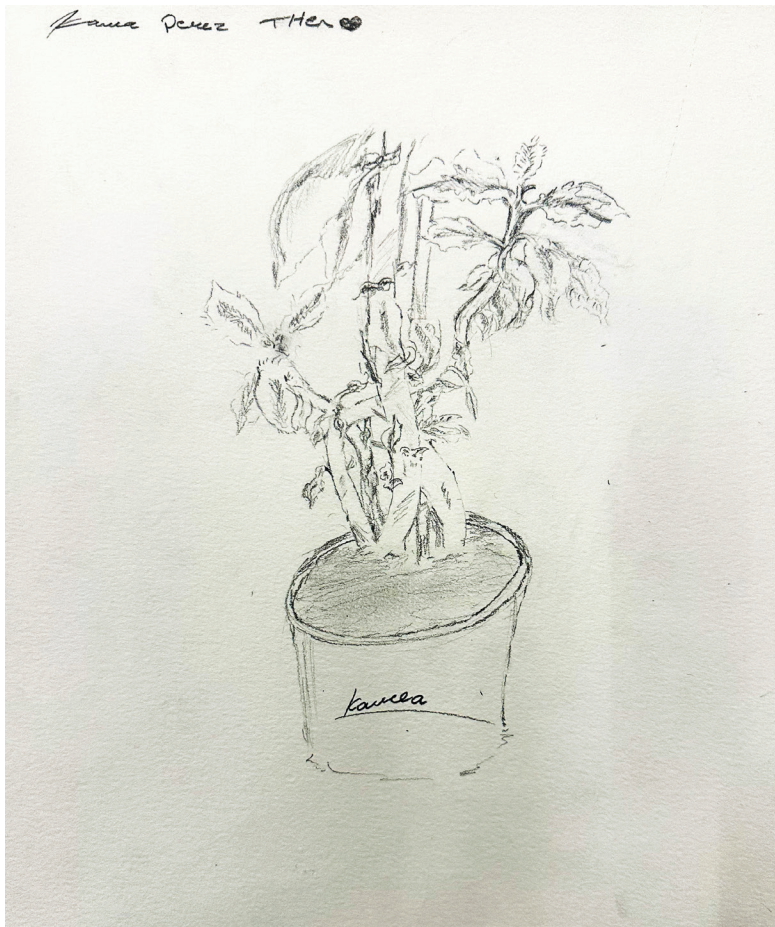




*Arbolito arbolito cada día te ves mas bonito.*

Nayeli Vega





*Mi proyecto significa belleza.*





Principal Guzman, Esperanza Cortés, students working, and Presentation day.





Esperanza Cortés, Beny Rodriguez, and Grade 6 M.S. 324 students



M.S. 324

# Exhibitions



***Nuestro Reflejo* exhibition at Morris Jumel Mansion**

February 5- May 30, 2025

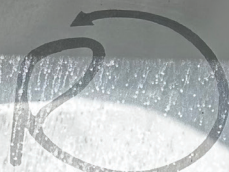








Detail of student poems, drawings, and paintings



# Recirculation

A project of Word Up Community Bookshop  
Un proyecto de Word Up Librería Comunitaria

876 Riverside Drive | [wordupbooks.com/recirculation](http://wordupbooks.com/recirculation)



### **El Nacimiento De La Tierra**

at Recirculation, May 15 - June 15 , 2024

A project of Word Up Community Bookshop

Un proyecto de Word Up Liberia Comunitaria

876 Riverside Drive

An exhibition by Grade 7 M.S. 324 students of paintings, drawings, and collages exploring both natural and man-made interventions in the landscape as well as collaged self-portraits. The project was led by Science teacher Mary Guerrero and Teaching Artist Esperanza Cortéz on behalf of Artists Space's Expanded Art Ideas program.

Una exhibición de pinturas, dibujos y collages que explora intervenciones, naturales y hechas por el hombre. Todo esto elaborado por los estudiantes de M.S. 324 quienes participan en el Programa de expansión de ideas artísticas de Artists Space.





*El Nacimiento De La Tierra* artists from M.S. 324  
at Recirculation

The Door

# BRIDGE

Inspired by James Baldwin's assertion that "Hope is invented every day," our BRIDGE Photography students—participating in our inaugural collaboration with The Door—were encouraged to seek out and document moments of resilience, transformation, and quiet hope within their communities. Each session began with hands-on exercises designed to introduce the fundamentals of light and the mechanics of working with 35mm analog film cameras, setting the foundation for both technical skill and creative exploration.

Our journeys began with visits to several exhibitions including Dawoud Bey at Sean Kelly Gallery, whose work explores the deep connections between African American history and the American landscape, illuminating the traumas and triumphs embedded in these spaces. At Pace, Hank Willis Thomas's curation of Irving Penn's *Kinship* encouraged a deeper engagement with composition and photographic storytelling. Finally, Weegee's *Society of the Spectacle* at the International Center for Photography provided a bold look at New York's streets and Hollywood fame, demonstrating photography's unique power to capture the interplay between reality and performance

Students travelled to Artists Space to see *Two-way*, a video work by Carolyn Lazard and were able to meet the artist and discuss what it means to be a working artist in New York City in 2025. They walked the streets of the Lower East Side, along the scenic Hudson River Park, and along the High Line. Riding the subways and traversing the city, they used their cameras inventively, becoming storytellers of their own, documenting their surroundings, not just as they are, but as they could be.

I have been continually inspired by the creativity and thoughtful conversations that fill our time together. The genuine care and support these young people show for one another creates a deep sense of community and mutual encouragement.

Alejandro Rodriguez  
Assistant Director of  
Arts Programming  
The Door

For over 50 years The Door has pursued a vision of creating an innovative youth development model to address the complex needs of young New Yorkers. Today, the organization serves up to 11,000 youth annually across our four New York City locations: our lower Manhattan and South Bronx youth centers and two supportive housing sites on the Lower East Side.

The Door's success lies in its commitment to meeting young people where they are and providing them with the comprehensive and integrated services they need to reach their potential.

What The Door accomplishes is made possible by amazing partners like Artists Space!. Artists Space thoughtfully and creatively embraced The Door and decided to work with a group of young people. These Door participants enjoyed a wholly unique experience exploring expression and artistry through photography led by the amazing teaching artist, Claudia Sohrens, and the Artists Space BRIDGE program.

THANK YOU Claudia and Artists Space!

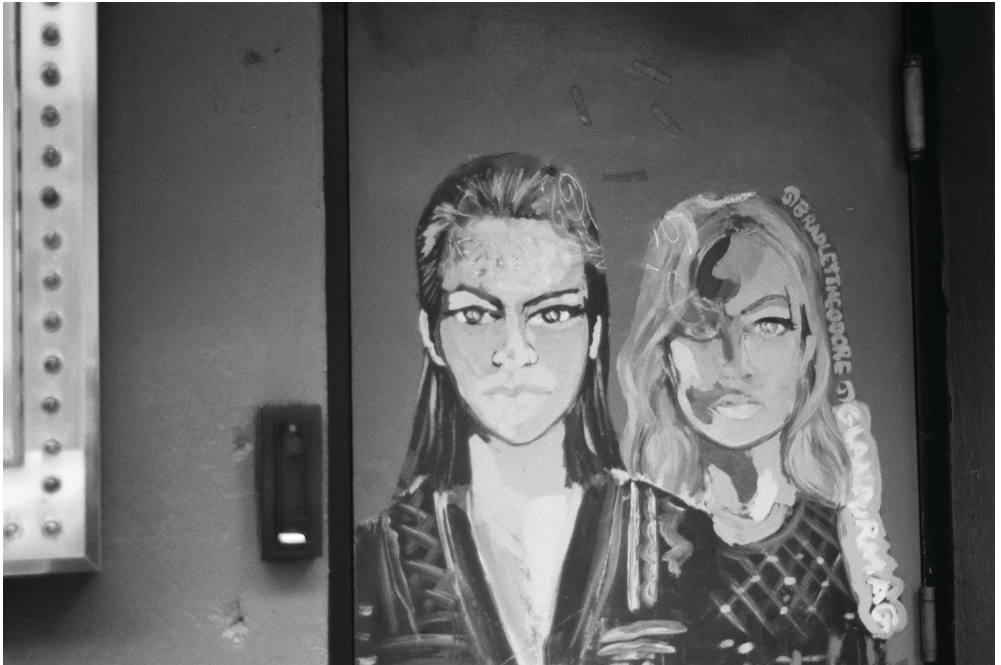


Participating Young Artists in BRIDGE Photography:

Thom Joseph  
Javier Flores  
Phoenix A  
Dimez Cartier  
Kevin G  
Khalil Barry  
John Luna  
Abby Imani  
Athena Tisdale  
Jorell Willis  
AJ Azariah John



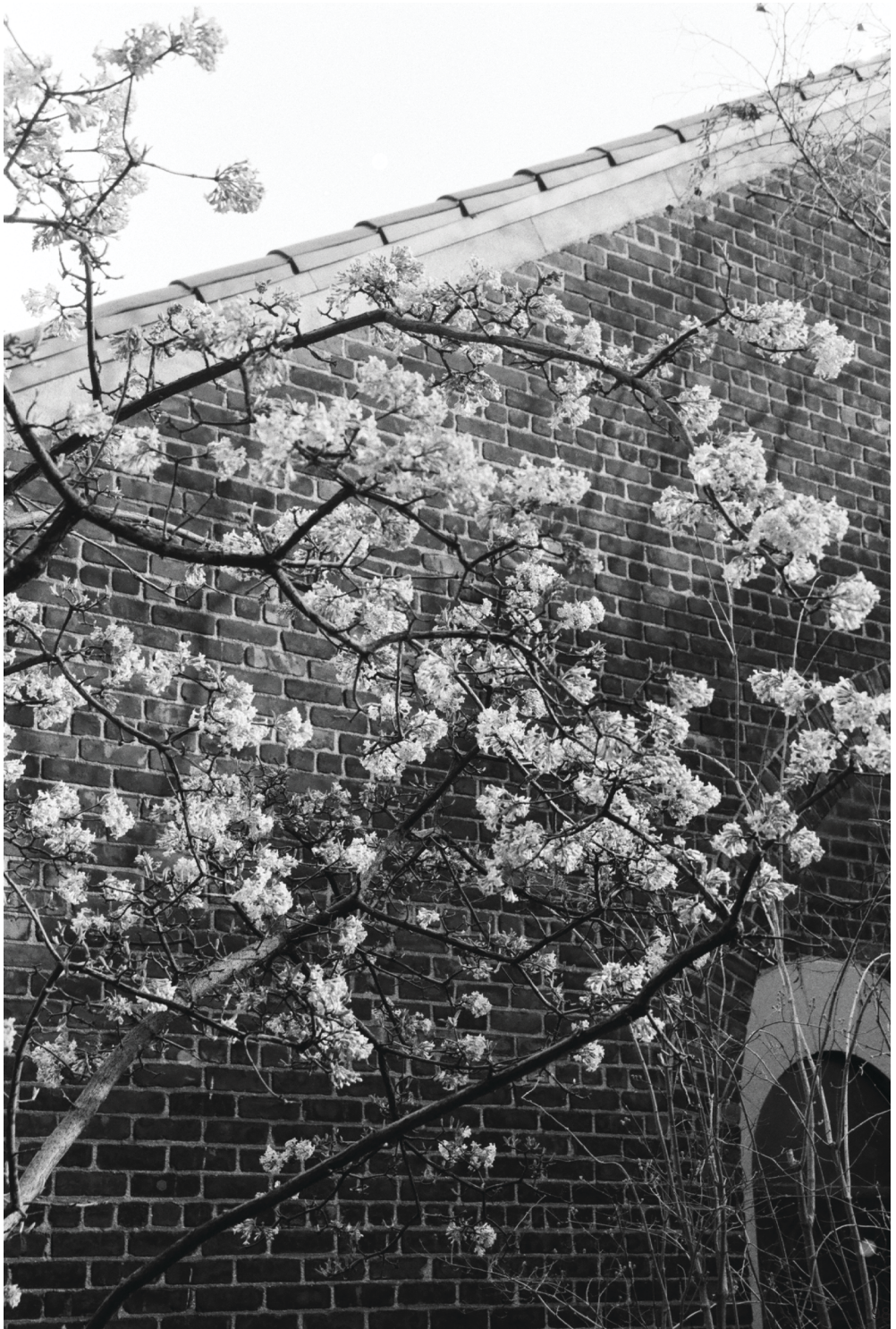






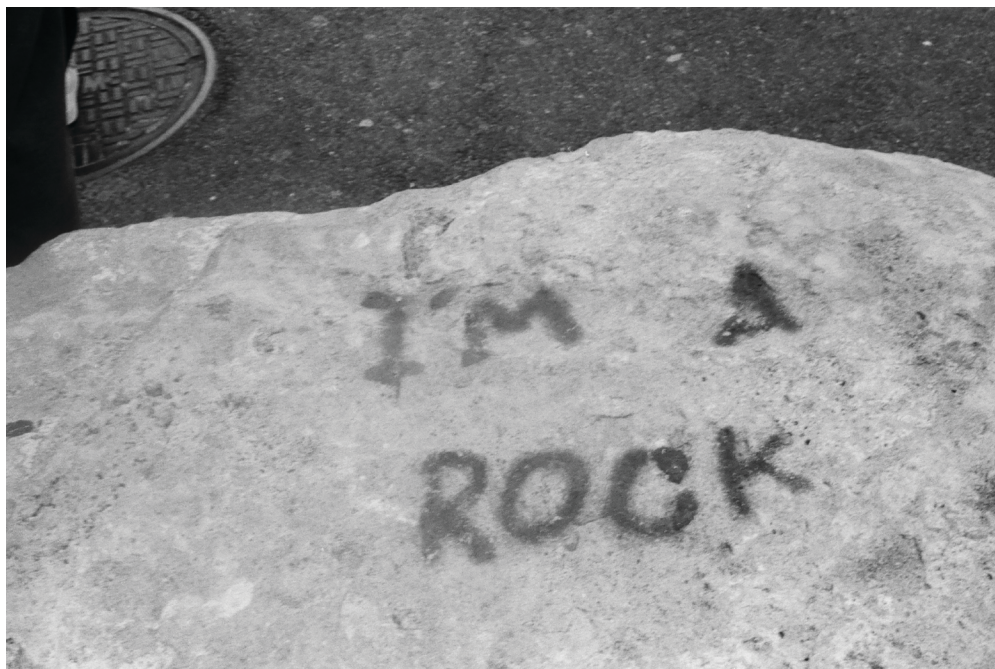


















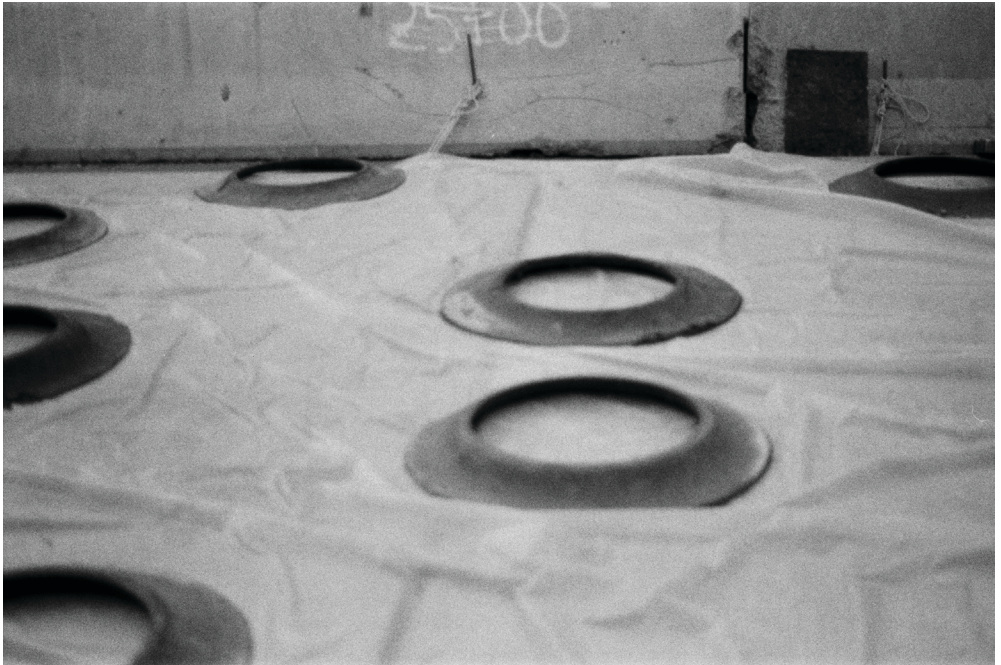






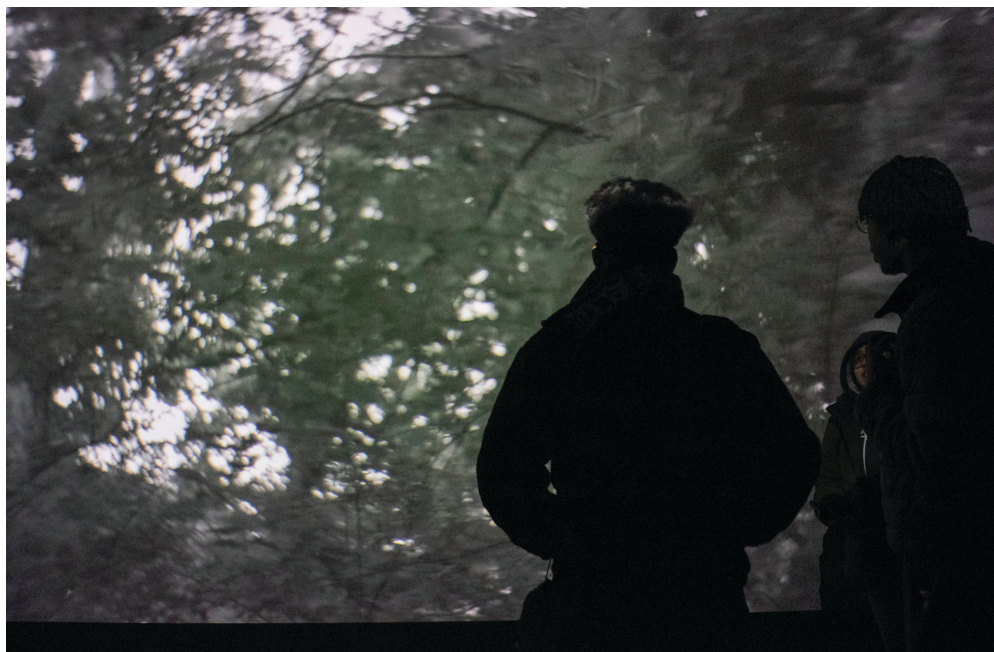




















Hudson River Outing



Subway Work



Carolyn Lazard and BRIDGE photography in conversation at Artists Space



**P.S. 140 Nathan Straus**

Lower East Side, New York

**M.S. 324 Patria Mirabel**

Washington Heights, New York

**The Door**

Soho, New York

Founded in 1972 in downtown Manhattan, Artists Space fosters the artistic and cultural life of New York City as a primary venue for artists' work in all forms. An affinity with emerging ideas and artists is central to our institution, as is attentiveness to the social and intellectual concerns which actively inform artistic practice. We strive for exemplary conditions in which to produce, experience, and understand art, to be a locus of critical discourse and education, and to advocate for the capacity of artistic work to significantly define and reflect our understanding of ourselves.

Artists Space's commitment to under-represented and emerging artists is born out in our Expanded Art Ideas programming where we foster both Teaching Artists and young people in under-resourced Manhattan schools and communities through a series of 10-20 week intensive residencies. Led by innovative artists such as Robert Sember from the sound art collective Ultra Red, Colombian-American mixed media artist and Guggenheim awardee, Esperanza Cortés, photographer Claudia Sohrens, and poet Matthew Bussa, projects aim to take both generative and responsive positions to creativity and living in the world. It is our intention to ensure that the students and communities we work with have access to innovative arts programming that cultivate an experience of joy, self-expression, and agency within the cultural climate of New York City.

Support for Artists Space exhibitions and programs is provided by Lambent Foundation Fund of Tides Foundation, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation, The New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in Partnership with the City Council, The New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature, The Keith Haring Foundation, I.A. O'Shaughnessy Foundation, Helen Frankenthaler Foundation, Cowles Charitable Trust, Lotos Foundation, Milton and Sally Avery Foundation and the Friends of Artists Space.

With special thanks to all the students, teachers, school administrators, and German Herrera for their ongoing dedication.

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Managing Editors

Kate Temple

Rezarta Seferi

ARTISTS SPACE

# Expanded Art Ideas